

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 7 has been amended to correct some minor typographical errors.

In addition, Fig. 8 has been amended to accord with the disclosure in the specification at pages 37-38 whereby when another radiographing panel is to be registered (step S23; YES) panel identification information for the new panel is entered (step S22) and this process is repeated. This is shown by pointing the return line from step S23 to between steps S21 and S22 (instead of between S22 and S23).

Submitted herewith are corrected sheets of formal drawing which incorporates the amendments and annotated sheets showing the changes.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn and the amendment to Figs. 7 and 8 be approved and entered.

THE CLAIMS

The claims have been amended only to make some minor grammatical improvements and to correct some minor antecedent

basis problems so as to put them in better form for issuance in a U.S. patent.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the claims be approved and entered.

It is respectfully submitted, moreover, that the amendments to the claims are not related to patentability, and do not narrow the scope of the claims either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.

THE PRIOR ART REJECTION

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in view of the combination of USP 6,954,767 ("Kanada") and US 2002/0091659 ("Beaulieu et al"); and claims 3-13 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in view of the combination of Kanada et al, Beaulieu et al and US 2005/0065822 ("Ying et al"). These rejections, however, are respectfully traversed.

On pages 3-4 of the Office Action, the Examiner asserts that Kanada discloses all the limitations of claims 1 and 2, for example, except for a "portable terminal" and that Beaulieu et al discloses a "portable terminal". In particular, the Examiner asserts that the image server 14 of Kanada corresponds to the information management apparatus of the claimed present

invention, that the judging means of Kanada corresponds to the control apparatus of the claimed present invention and that the diagnosis terminal 15 of Kanada corresponds to portable terminal of the claimed present invention (except that the diagnosis terminal 15 of Kanada is not portable).

It is respectfully submitted, however, that the numeral "15" of Kanada denotes a diagnostic workstation (not a diagnosis terminal), and that the diagnostic workstation 15 of Kanada does not correspond to the "portable terminal" of the claimed present invention irrespective of the fact that the diagnostic workstation 15 of Kanada is not portable.

If Kanada's diagnostic workstation 15 were considered to correspond to the portable terminal of the present invention as asserted by the Examiner, the diagnostic workstation 15 of Kanada would have to have all of the claimed limitations of the portable terminal of the claimed present invention. It is respectfully submitted, however, that the diagnostic workstation 15 of Kanada does not disclose, teach or suggest all such claimed limitations.

For example, on page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner asserts that column 14, lines 31-38 of Kanada teaches a portable terminal which displays photographing order information obtained from a control apparatus on a screen. However, column 14, lines 31-38 of Kanada merely states that "The diagnostic workstation 15 is a terminal used by a radiologist or the like

for carrying out a diagnosis while referring to the image data and carrying out image processing to generate an image appropriate for diagnosis by changing an image processing parameter and the like as required." This disclosure in Canada only relates to the display of image data. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Canada does not at all disclose, teach or suggest displaying photographing order information on a screen as according to the claimed present invention.

The Examiner also asserts that column 17, lines 40-47 of Canada teaches a portable terminal which obtains information relating to a particular patient out of displayed photographing order information. However, column 17, lines 40-47 of Canada merely states that the "image server 14 presets the combinations of the image recording modality and the image requesting department as the past-image acquisition conditions (the condition required for an past image to be prefetched) and presets the combinations of an ID number of the patient, the modality, the image requesting department and the period in which the image was photographed as the past-image search conditions." This disclosure in Canada does not relate to the diagnostic workstation 15 of Canada which, as the Examiner asserts, corresponds to the portable terminal of the claimed present invention, but only relates to the image server 14 of Canada. Specifically, this disclosure in Canada only relates to

conditions for searching certain images which are preset in the image server 14. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Kanada does not at all disclose, teach or suggest that the diagnostic workstation 15 obtains information relating to a particular patient from the photographing order information as according to the portable terminal of the claimed present invention.

The Examiner also asserts that column 17, lines 51-58 of Kanada teaches a portable terminal which obtains a panel identification information particular to a radiographing panel to be used for photographing a medical image of a patient. However, column 17, lines 51-58 of Kanada merely states that "A radiology department information system (RIS) 11 sends examination order information (the ID number, the modality etc,) of a patient to the image server 14." This disclosure in Kanada also does not relate to the diagnostic workstation 15 of Kanada which, as the Examiner asserts, corresponds to the portable terminal of the claimed present invention, but only relates to the image server 14. More specifically, this disclosure in Kanada only relates to obtaining information of the modality by the image server 14. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Kanada does not at all disclose, teach or suggest that the diagnostic workstation 15 obtains panel identification information as according to the portable terminal of the claimed present invention.

The Examiner also states that column 14, lines 21-30 of Kanada teaches a portable terminal which stores into a memory the obtained panel identification information made to correspond with the photographing order information. However, column 14, lines 21-30 of Kanada merely states that "the image server 14 is a computer which makes image data recorded by the image recording modalities 12 and 13 be stored in the image archiving apparatus 17 or 18, and which reads desired image data from the image data in the archiving apparatuses according to a request from the diagnostic workstation 15 or the reference terminal 16, to transfer the image data thereto." This disclosure in Kanada does not relate to the diagnostic workstation 15 which, according to the Examiner, makes the panel identification information correspond to radiographing order information, and it is respectfully submitted that Kanada does not disclose, teach or suggest this feature of the portable terminal of the claimed present invention.

In summary, it is respectfully submitted that Kanada relates to a system for searching images, whereas the claimed present invention relates to a medical image photographing system. And it is respectfully submitted that even if the teachings of Kanada were combinable with Beaulieu et al and Ying et al in the manner suggested by the Examiner, the structure of the medical image

photographing system of the claimed present invention would still not be achieved or rendered obvious.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-13, as amended, clearly patentably distinguish over all of the cited references, taken singly or in combination, under 35 USC 103.

RE: INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner return an initialed copy of page 1 of the IDS Form submitted with the IDS dated September 30, 2004, to ensure that all of the publications listed thereon have been considered and made of record.

RE: FOREIGN PRIORITY CLAIM

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner acknowledge the foreign priority claim in the next Office Action. In this connection, it is noted that item 12 on the Office Action Summary has been left unchecked.

* * * * *

In view of the foregoing, entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

Application Serial No. 10/797,688
Response to Office Action

Customer No. 01933

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

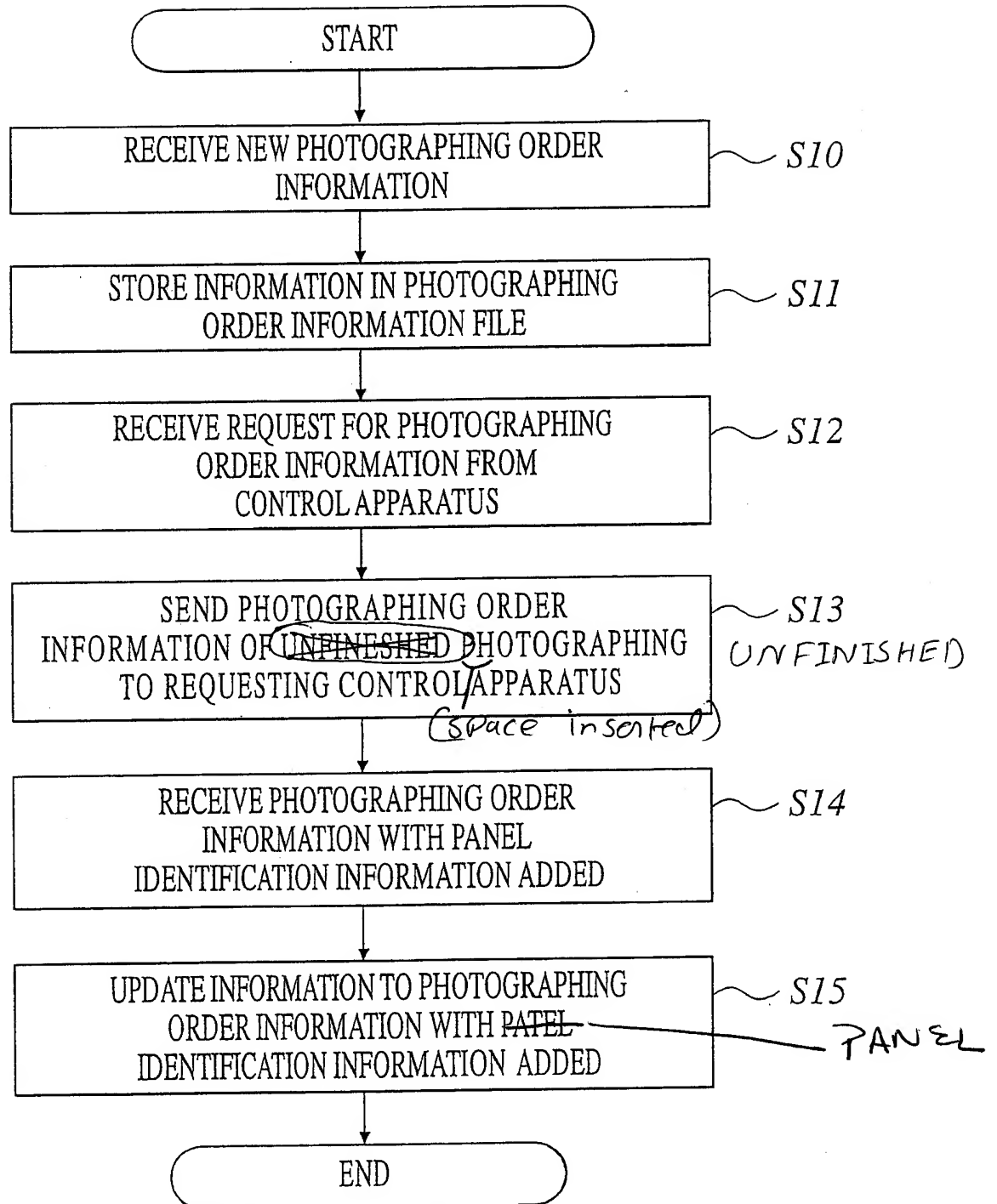
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FIG. 7



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FIG. 8

